

### **REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments in the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

#### **Amendments to the Specification**

The amendments to the first full paragraph of Page 17 of the specification clarifies that oxides are not considered salts for purposes of this application but that they may nevertheless serve the role of "Salt B" in preparation of coating compositions. In an Office Action dated July 9, 2001, the Examiner rejected certain claims because such claims referred to metal oxides as salts. In that Office Action, the Examiner stated that oxides are not salts. In response, applicant amended the claims to clarify that the colloids may comprise salts, oxides, or combinations of salts or oxides. The amendment to the specification made herein deletes oxides from the list of "salts" that may be used but adds language indicating that oxides may be used in the same manner as salts in serving the role of "Salt B." This amendment makes the specification consistent with the previous amendments to the claims and clarifies that salts, oxides, or combinations thereof may be used. The amendment adds no new matter since oxides were originally included within the list of salts in the amended paragraph and the amendment simply describes the processing of oxides in a manner similar to that set forth for the processing of salts.

#### **Amendments to the Claims**

No claims are canceled herein. Claims 8 and 52 are amended herein, and new Claims 63-71 are added herein. With these changes, Claims 1-13, 35-43, 45, and 47-71 are pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the claims as amended.

Claims 8 and 52 are amended herein to clarify that those claims include compositions in which either one or more than one of the oligodynamic metals compounds in the colloid comprise silver. As noted throughout the application, the term "oligodynamic metal" is not

limited to silver but includes, for example, gold, copper, zinc, and cerium. See, for example, the third paragraph on Page 1 of the specification.

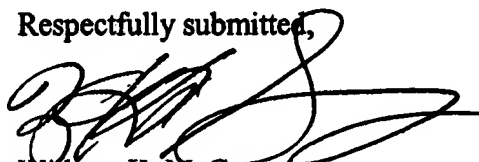
Claims 63-64 contain all of the elements of Claim 43. Support for these claims may be found, for example, in the specification in Example 1, which discloses coating a latex Foley catheter with a polyurethane-urea polymer coating containing silver nitrate and colloidal silver chloride, (see Page 38, line 1 through Page 39, line 2 of the specification) and Example 15, which discloses coating a PVC endotracheal tube with a coating containing both polyvinyl chloride and polyurethane-urea polymers as well as colloidal silver chloride, (see Page 45, line 13 through Page 46, line 11 of the specification). Because allowed Claims 63-64 contain all of the elements of allowed Claim 43, applicant respectfully asserts that those claims are allowable.

Support for new Claims 65, 66, 67, 68, and 69 may be found, for example, in Claim 13 as originally filed and in Examples 1, 11, and 15 of the Specification. Support for new Claims 70, and 71 may be found, for example, in Claim 35 as originally filed and in Examples 1, 11, and 15 of the Specification.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application. Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes any informalities remain in the application that may be corrected by Examiner's amendment, or there are any other issues that can be resolved by telephone interview, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at (404) 745-2494 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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